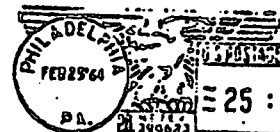


UNITED STATES  
NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
*International Affairs Commission*  
3487 CHESTNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 4, PENNSYLVANIA, U.S.A.



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. Y. Kharlamov  
Chairman, Student Council  
of the USSR  
Ulitsa Kozpotskina 10  
Moscow, USSR

324

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

# UNITED STATES NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

3437 CHESTNUT STREET • PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19104 • AREA CODE 215-BAing 2-3722 • CABLE MATSUDU

February 24, 1964

Mr. Y. Kharlamov  
Chairman, Student Council  
of the USSR  
Ulitsa Korpotkins 10  
Moscow, USSR

Dear Mr. Kharlamov:

We have received your letter in response to our proposal for a joint statement supporting the recent test ban treaty. We are pleased that you share with us a deep and abiding concern that students should support this epoch-marking initiative.

Your suggestion that the statement be arranged at the Florence Conference for Peace, Disarmament & National Independence is an interesting one, to which we have given much careful attention. We, of course, will always support any sincere undertaking which will encourage the world to live in peace, and any steps taken by students to further this aim will receive our whole-hearted backing.

However, we feel that because of the nature of the Florence Conference and the ways in which it has been organized, USNSA cannot, in true faith to its principles, attend. While it is a noble idea for youth and students from throughout the world to come together honestly and in earnest to discuss ways to further peace and disarmament, we feel that the forum for such an undertaking must provide the maximum opportunity for fruitful discussion. A meaningful conference on peace and disarmament must necessarily avoid stratagems and tactics designed to push forward one point of view to the exclusion of others. We feel that the Florence Conference does not avoid these hindrances to true understanding, and we therefore cannot attend.

Your contention that a joint statement by the student organizations of the USA and the USSR would have an important effect on delegates to the Conference perhaps has some merit. Therefore, we are all the more disappointed that you could not sign the statement we sent to you before the Conference. In the future, doubtless, there will be a greater willingness to cooperate constructively.

Sincerely yours,

*Gregory M. Gallo*  
GREGORY M. GALLO  
President

*Alexander Korns*  
ALEXANDER KORNIS  
International Affairs Vice-  
President

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